

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 233671

FOR EASUM

FOLLOWING REPEAT USUN 4291 ACTION SECSTATE INFO
LONDON PARIS PRETORIA CAPE TOWN 22 OCTOBER.

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 4291

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UN, PFOR, SC, SF

SUBJ: SOUTH AFRICA IN SECURITY COUNCIL, OCT. 21

1. PRIOR TO DELIVERING HIS STATEMENT OCT. 21 (USUN 4274),
BAROODY (SAUDI ARABIA) APPROACHED AMBASSADOR BENNETT
DURING SC DEBATE ON SOUTH AFRICA, SAYING HE WANTED TO
TALK ABOUT HIS CONCERN OVER SITUATION. HE SAID HE SPOKE
AS LONG-TIME FRIEND OF US, WHO UNDERSTOOD AND SYMPATHIZED
WITH POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PRESSURES ON US
WITH RESPECT TO SOUTH AFRICA.

2. EXPULSION OF SOUTH AFRICA WOULD BE "RIDICULOUS" AND
A MOST SERIOUS PRECEDENT FOR UN. HOWEVER, AFRICANS
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AS A GROUP ARE IN HIGHLY EMOTIONAL FRAME OF MIND AND ARE,

OF COURSE, BEING ENCOURAGED BY SOVIETS. US, UK AND FRANCE ARE ON THE DEFENSIVE. THE VETO IS NOT THE WAY OUT AND WILL COST US A GREAT DEAL. THE TIME HAS COME TO FIND A WAY TO DEAL WITH PROBLEM OF SOUTH AFRICA, SAID BAROODY, AND HE PLEADED THAT USG TAKE SERIOUSLY HIS WARNING. THE TIME IS NOW, HE REPEATED EARNESTLY.

3. BAROODY SAID HE INTENDED TO PROPOSE PLAN UNDER WHICH TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL WOULD BE REACTIVATED TO TAKE OVER RESPONSIBILITIES FOR NAMIBIA FOR TWO-YEAR PERIOD. DURING THAT TWO YEAR PERIOD, NAMIBIA WOULD BE PREPARED FOR INDEPENDENCE. THIS PLAN WOULD PROVIDE WAY FOR SUBSTANTIVE PROGRESS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA AND WOULD BE A FACE-SAVING WAY FOR SOUTH AFRICA TO YIELD. PRESSURE BY WESTERN POWERS, PARTICULARLY BY US, ON SOUTH AFRICA TO MOVE FORWARD ON NAMIBIA WOULD REDOUND TO OUR CREDIT AND HELP OUR POSITION WITH AFRICANS. SUBSEQUENT BAROODY STATEMENT ON SC PARALLELED CARETAKER PROPOSAL.

4. BENNETT COMMENTED THAT ABOVE PLAN, IF REFINED AND ACCEPTED, WOULD STILL LEAVE PROBLEM OF SOUTH AFRICA ITSELF. BAROODY ACKNOWLEDGED THIS BUT WAS VAGUE ON HOW TO DEAL WITH IT. (HE ALSO WAS VAGUE DURING STATEMENT TO SC.) HE SUGGESTED WHITE ENCLAVES INSIDE SOUTH AFRICA AS A POSSIBILITY, SAYING THAT IN LONG RUN, ABSORPTION AND ASSIMILATION WERE INEVITABLE. HE CONCLUDED WITH PLEA THAT US HEAR THIS APPEAL FROM ITS OLD FRIEND BAROODY AND MOVE NOW FOR FUNDAMENTAL CHANGE ON SOUTH AFRICA. OTHERWISE, WEST WOULD PAY HEAVY COSTS IN UN AND ELSEWHERE AND ONLY SOVIETS (AND CHINESE) WOULD GAIN FROM SITUATION. SCALI UNQUOTE
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